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Report of the Peacebuilding Commission

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Sixty-third year

Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its second session

I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005), in which the Peacebuilding Commission was requested to submit an annual report to the General Assembly for an annual debate and review. The report will also be submitted to the Security Council, pursuant to its resolution 1646 (2005), for an annual debate. The report reviews the work of the Peacebuilding Commission during its second session, from 23 June 2007 to 22 June 2008.

II. Work of the Commission

2. At the beginning of the reporting period, the Commission elected its new Chairperson, Yukio Takasu (Japan), and Vice-Chairpersons, Carmen Gallardo Hernandez (El Salvador) and Leslie Kojo Christian (Ghana). The Burundi and Sierra Leone configurations were chaired by Johan L. Løvald (Norway) and Frank Majoor (Netherlands), respectively. The nomination of Maria Luiza R. Viotti (Brazil) as Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration was endorsed by the Organizational Committee on 19 December 2007. The nomination of Jan Grauls (Belgium) as Chair of the country-specific configuration for the Central African Republic was also endorsed by the Organizational Committee on 12 June 2008. The Working Group on Lessons Learned was chaired by El Salvador. The various configurations, including the Organizational Committee, met regularly and addressed issues pertaining to their respective areas of competence.

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A. Organizational Committee

3. During the second session, the Organizational Committee held on average one monthly informal meeting to address organizational and substantive matters. Formal meetings were convened only as necessary. The regular meetings of the Chairs of the Commission's configurations contributed to developing the Organizational Committee's agenda of meetings and, in general, the Commission's work programme. In addition, on 18 and 19 January 2008, the Chairperson convened an informal retreat of all members of the Organizational Committee to hold a strategic review of the work of the Commission, particularly with respect to its mandates of marshalling resources and enhancing coordination. The Secretary-General also participated in the inaugural part of the retreat, where he reflected on his role in support of the work of the Commission.

4. In his inaugural address before the Organizational Committee on 27 June 2007, the Chairperson outlined a road map and identified a number of key issues to be addressed by the Commission during its second year of operation. To a large extent, a number of those priorities set the foundation for the programme of work and focus of the work of the Organizational Committee during the reporting period, and were supported through inputs from the Peacebuilding Support Office.

Interaction with United Nations principal organs

5. The Chairperson established regular and direct working relationships with the Presidents of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, and consulted them on issues related to the work of the Commission and on the means to enhance its relations with these organs.

6. On 10 and 17 October 2007, the Chairperson addressed the General Assembly and the Security Council, respectively, on the occasions of the annual debates held by the two organs on the report of the Commission on its first session (A/62/137-S/2007/458). The two debates represented an opportunity for the Commission to seek the views of the broader membership of the United Nations on conceptual and institutional matters of direct relevance to its work. The majority of the Member States viewed the progress achieved during the first year of the Commission's operations as positive and promising, while pointing to the need to focus on country-specific tangible results as the Commission further developed its engagement with the countries on its agenda.

7. The President of the General Assembly invited the Chairperson to an informal plenary meeting, held on 29 January 2008, to update the Assembly on the progress achieved in the work of the Commission since the Assembly's general debate during October 2007. The update represented an opportunity for an interactive dialogue with the broader membership, as well as for the Chairperson to seek the support of the Member States for the countries on the Commission's agenda.

8. The Chairperson also participated in a seminar on the theme "Formulation of a comprehensive and coherent strategy of conflict prevention, particularly in Africa", which was organized on 6 December 2007 by the Security Council's Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa. The Chairperson addressed a high-level meeting of the Security Council on 16 April 2008, which was held in conjunction with the African Union Peace and Security Council, as well as

the Security Council debates on security-sector reform and post-conflict peacebuilding, held on 12 and 20 May 2008, respectively.

9. In an effort to follow up relevant mandates and references to the Commission in resolutions, decisions and statements of the three principal organs, the Organizational Committee tasked the Peacebuilding Support Office to compile a summary of all such mandates and references, which was circulated to the Organizational Committee as a non-paper on 1 November 2007. The findings of that exercise clearly demonstrated the growing relevance of the work of the Commission within the United Nations and, at the same time, elaborated on the broader definition of peacebuilding in relation to the respective competence and mandates of the principal organs.

Public awareness and visibility of the work of the Peacebuilding Commission

10. During the reporting period, the Chairperson also participated in several public events related to peacebuilding and the work of the Commission, organized by a range of existing and potential actors, stakeholders and partners, such as International Geneva (6 November 2007), the Government of Japan (24 January 2008) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (13 June 2008), as well as a number of events organized by other stakeholders. The participation of the Chairperson in those public events was part of a broader outreach and advocacy strategy aimed at raising the profile and increasing the visibility of the Commission in different quarters and enhancing awareness about its work.

Relationship with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, regional and subregional organizations, and international financial institutions

11. On several occasions, including at the Commission's first retreat, the Organizational Committee invited representatives of the relevant United Nations funds, agencies and programmes to brief and interact with its members. Those interactions promoted the work of the Commission in seeking partnerships and coherence in relevant activities within and outside the United Nations.

12. On 17 April 2008, the Organizational Committee held an interactive dialogue with the Chairperson of the African Union Peace and Security Council in order to strengthen future interaction and collaboration between the Commission and the African Union Peace and Security Council. This was a crucial engagement given the evolving efforts of the African Union to implement its Policy Framework for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, which, like the integrated peacebuilding strategies applied by the Commission, reinforces the linkage between security, development and human rights as essential components for sustainable peace, as outlined in the 2005 World Summit Outcome (General Assembly resolution 60/1). In that context, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support had also provided a briefing to the African Union Peace and Security Council in March 2008 in Addis Ababa. The Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission also visited the European Commission and the European Parliament in Brussels on 27 and 28 May to exchange views and to encourage the continued engagement of the European Union/European Community in the work of the Peacebuilding Commission.

13. The Organizational Committee intensified its interaction with the international financial institutions and operational entities within the United Nations system.

Through two visits to the headquarters of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Washington, D.C., on 14 February and 31 March 2008, respectively, the Chairperson exchanged views with the senior leadership of the two institutions on ways to intensify interaction, exchange information and ensure coherence between the work and activities of the Commission and the international financial institutions.

Placing additional countries on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission

14. While respecting the primary responsibility of referring organs identified in paragraph 12 of the founding resolutions, the Chairperson initiated broad consultations within the Organizational Committee, and with those referring organs, on the most suitable manner for the contribution of the Commission to the selection of countries which may request to be placed on the agenda of the Commission. Those exchanges attest to a strong interest by the Commission to engage proactively with the referring entities. On 16 October and 19 November 2007, the Chairperson held informal discussions on that subject and prepared a non-paper entitled "Points to be considered for adding a new country to the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission", which was discussed at an informal meeting of the Organizational Committee on 19 November and subsequently brought to the attention of the Presidents of the referring organs.

15. Upon receipt of a formal request from the Security Council to provide advice on peacebuilding priorities for Guinea-Bissau (A/62/736-S/2007/744), the Organizational Committee convened a formal meeting on 19 December 2007, in which the Minister of Defence of Guinea-Bissau participated by videoconference and elaborated on his Government's request to be placed on the agenda of the Commission. At the same meeting, the Organizational Committee also decided to place Guinea-Bissau on the agenda of the Commission and to establish the Guinea-Bissau configuration.

16. Upon receipt of a formal request from the Security Council to provide advice on peacebuilding priorities for the Central African Republic (A/62/864-S/2008/383), the Organizational Committee convened a formal meeting on 12 June 2008 in which the President of the Central African Republic participated and elaborated on his Government's request to be placed on the agenda of the Commission. At the formal meeting, the Organizational Committee took a decision to place the Central African Republic on the agenda of the Commission and to establish a new country-specific configuration for the country.

17. In accordance with paragraph 12 of the founding resolutions, the request from the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for placement on the Commission's agenda was conveyed to the Security Council for consideration on 25 April 2008. The request was also brought to the attention of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Secretary-General.

Consideration of broad strategy and policy guidance on peacebuilding

18. The Organizational Committee held a discussion in November 2007 on the modalities to consider strategy and policy issues pertaining to the implementation of the mandates of the Commission as defined in paragraph 2 of the founding resolutions. The Organizational Committee developed a shared understanding that the informal strategy and policy discussions should complement and not duplicate

the work of the country-specific configurations and the Working Group on Lessons Learned, and would result in an outcome which could be shared with, and helpful to, a broader community of peacebuilding actors and stakeholders within and outside the United Nations system.

19. On 19 February 2008, the Organizational Committee held a discussion on the theme "The role of the private sector in peacebuilding: contribution by the Peacebuilding Commission". Representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Financial Corporation of the World Bank and the United Nations Foundations of International Partnerships were invited and they presented areas for possible partnerships between their respective entities and the Commission to promote the engagement of the domestic and international private sectors in peacebuilding. Members also presented their views and proposals for encouraging the flow of private human and financial resources to post-conflict countries. Subsequently, a task force, with Indonesia acting as Facilitator, was set up at the working level to focus on tangible ways through which the Commission could contribute to the strengthening of the role of the private sector in post-conflict peacebuilding, in accordance with the Commission's mandate to bring together all relevant actors to marshal support and resources. That consideration would include three specific areas: microfinance, remittances and partnerships with private foundations. On 19 June 2008, the Facilitator presented the outcome document of the task force to the Organizational Committee, which took note with appreciation of the work of the task force and the outcome document.

20. On 13 May 2008, the Organizational Committee held a discussion on the theme "Forging strategic synergies for peacebuilding: the role of the Peacebuilding Commission", during which the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations and the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations presented their perspectives on the subject and held an interactive dialogue with the members of the Organizational Committee.

21. On 19 June 2008, upon the invitation of the Organizational Committee, Joaquim Chissano, Chairperson of the Forum of African Former Heads of State and Government (Africa Forum) briefed the Committee on "Peacebuilding towards the construction of capable States in Africa".

Procedure and working methods

22. The Organizational Committee has taken a pragmatic approach in its second year of operations and recognized the need to continue to devise flexible practices on procedural matters that were not originally addressed in its provisional rules of procedure or its working methods, including the issuance of "conclusions and recommendations" and addressing routine procedural matters through the "silence procedure" method of taking decisions on non-objection basis.

23. On 19 December 2007, the Organizational Committee agreed on an arrangement for the participation of the European Community, represented by the Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Commission, in meetings of the Commission's country-specific configurations.

Financing of field missions

24. On 18 October 2007, the Organizational Committee mandated the Chairperson to request the President of the General Assembly to refer the content of paragraph 43 (on financing field missions) of the report of the Commission on its first session (A/62/137-S/2007/458) to the Assembly's Administrative and Budgetary Committee (Fifth Committee) for consideration. Subsequently, the Fifth Committee approved a recommendation by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, which enabled the Commission to finance its field missions to the three countries under consideration between April and June 2008 (General Assembly resolution 62/245).

B. Burundi configuration

25. In its second year of engagement with Burundi, the Commission focused on developing a joint monitoring and tracking mechanism for the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi (PBC/1/BDI/4, annex), fulfilling a first set of engagements, while continuing to closely monitor peacebuilding in the country.

26. From 5 to 7 September 2007, the Chair of the Burundi configuration undertook a fact-finding mission to Burundi to discuss three issues that affected the country's efforts to consolidate peace and had the potential to provoke a crisis in the country: a fragile budgetary situation; a parliamentary deadlock resulting in the blocking of legislative action; and the withdrawal of Palipehutu-FNL from the Joint Verification and Monitoring Mechanism on 21 July 2007. On the basis of the Chair's report, the Commission issued conclusions and recommendations calling the Government and other stakeholders to take the necessary measures to urgently deal with these issues (see PBC/2/BDI/2). Members of the Burundi configuration welcomed the approach of issuing conclusions and recommendations on specific issues resulting from its monitoring of the peacebuilding process and recommended that it be continued.

27. On 5 December 2007, the Commission, in its Burundi configuration, adopted a joint monitoring and tracking mechanism for the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi (PBC/2/BDI/4), defining benchmarks and indicators for the periodic assessment of progress in consolidating peace in the country. The mechanism was jointly developed by the Government of Burundi and the Commission. Key partners on the ground, in particular representatives of entities involved in the development of the Strategic Framework (representatives of civil society organizations, women's groups and international partners), were also involved in the definition of the benchmarks and indicators. Those benchmarks and indicators will allow joint monitoring to be conducted by the Government of Burundi and its partners to assess their respective contributions to the Strategic Framework.

28. On 6 December 2007 and upon the request of the Security Council, the Chair of the Burundi configuration provided a briefing to the Security Council on the political situation in Burundi. On 19 December 2007, the Security Council welcomed the Peacebuilding Commission's close engagement on Burundi, including the finalization with the Burundian Government of the Strategic Framework and the adoption of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism, and looked forward to its implementation in the same spirit of partnership (Security Council resolution 1791 (2007)).

29. On 6 February 2008, the Burundi configuration agreed on an annual workplan, focusing on two sets of activities: (a) fulfilling the engagements reflected in the Strategic Framework and in the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism and (b) monitoring the peacebuilding process and providing advice to relevant stakeholders. In view of the return of refugees from the United Republic of Tanzania to the country and the expected implications for additional resource needs, the schedule of a thematic meeting on finding sustainable solutions to land issues was brought forward to 27 May 2008.

30. On 22 and 23 February 2008, the Chair of the Burundi configuration participated in a meeting of special envoys for Burundi convened by the South African Facilitation in Cape Town, South Africa. The meeting agreed on an outcome entitled "Programme of action to take further the Burundi peace process". On the basis of the Chair's report on his participation in the meeting, the Commission issued conclusions and recommendations on the situation in Burundi (see PBC/2/BDI/7), welcoming the active and continued engagement of the African Union, the Regional Peace Initiative for Burundi and the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB). The Commission welcomed the renewal of the mandate of the South African Facilitation until 31 December 2008 and made recommendations to stakeholders in the peace process in order to ensure the successful implementation of the 2006 Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Burundi and the Palipehutu-FNL.

31. On 28 and 29 February 2008, the Chair of the Burundi configuration and the Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration visited the World Bank Group and IMF to sensitize them on the objectives of the Strategic Framework and the engagement between Burundi and the Commission. The discussion with IMF was an opportunity to take stock of the contribution of the Chair of the Burundi configuration in resolving the 2007 budgetary crisis of Burundi, as well as to discuss possible collaboration in the follow-up to the conclusion of the sixth review under the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility. The visit was also an opportunity for the two Chairs to hold discussions with, and advocate for support from, representatives of the United Sates Government concerning the work of the Commission with emphasis on the situation of the two countries.

32. From 10 to 15 May 2008, a delegation of seven members of the Burundi configuration travelled to Burundi on a field mission to obtain first-hand information about the situation on the ground, in particular on the renewed confrontations between the Palipehutu-FNL and the National Defence Forces of Burundi, following attacks by the Palipehutu-FNL in April 2008 and the protracted stalemate in Parliament in the first part of the year. The visit was also an opportunity to review the preparation of the first biannual review scheduled to take place on 23 June 2008 and to focus the attention of the international community on peacebuilding efforts in Burundi. The delegation from New York was joined by 10 representatives of the Commission in Burundi. On 22 May 2008 and upon the request of the Security Council, the Chair briefed the Security Council on the situation in the country.

33. The Peacebuilding Support Office circulated a document containing a detailed mapping of resources and contributions from various stakeholders to the peacebuilding process in Burundi in order to allow the Burundi configuration to better focus its efforts, in particular in the areas of resource mobilization and

coordination of the international community's support for Burundi. The mapping served as an input to the first biannual report on the implementation of the Strategic Framework.

34. The first biannual review of the implementation of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi was held on 23 June 2008. The meeting evaluated progress made by the Government of Burundi, the Commission and other stakeholders, as defined by the mutually agreed benchmarks of the matrix of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi, and adopted the recommendations of the biannual review at the implementation of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi (PBC/2/BDI/9).

C. Sierra Leone configuration

35. In its second year of engagement with Sierra Leone, the Commission focused on support for the national elections and the democratic transition, the finalization of a Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework, the broadening of the donor base, and enhancing Government and donor partnerships and coordination.

36. Following a request from the Security Council to track progress and monitor developments in the lead-up to the 11 August 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections in Sierra Leone, the Sierra Leone configuration held three informal and one formal meetings on the subject. Those meetings involved all relevant national and international stakeholders, and provided a helpful forum to raise concerns and assess progress in the preparations for the elections.

37. On 22 June 2007, the Sierra Leone configuration adopted a Chair's declaration on the Presidential and Parliamentary elections to be held in Sierra Leone on 11 August 2007 (PBC/1/SLE/4), which was transmitted to the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. The Declaration welcomed the efforts of the Government of Sierra Leone, the United Nations system and the international partners in preparing for the elections. It stated that the elections were a critical milestone for the consolidation of peace and democracy in Sierra Leone, and urged all stakeholders to make every effort to ensure that they were conducted peacefully and in accordance with international standards. The declaration specifically encouraged the political parties, their supporters and media representatives to adhere to the Political Parties Code of Conduct and the Media Code of Conduct, and to support the participation of women and youth in the elections. Subsequent elections on 11 August, the run-off presidential election on 5 September and the peaceful transition of power from one democratically elected leader to another were a remarkable achievement by the people of Sierra Leone.

38. From 9 to 15 October 2007, the Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration visited Sierra Leone to meet with the newly elected Government and discuss concrete ways in which the Commission could support the Government's efforts for peace, reconciliation and economic recovery. During the visit, the need to finalize a Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework by the end of the year was stressed. The participants in the visit concluded that the Commission should also consider adding the energy sector as a priority in addition to the previously identified peacebuilding priority areas of good governance; youth employment and empowerment; security-sector reform and justice-sector reform; and capacity-building.

39. During the thematic discussion of the energy sector held by the Sierra Leone configuration on 21 November 2007, the Government of Sierra Leone called on the Commission to mobilize additional resources and commitments to support the Government's urgent response to the energy crisis and a medium-term energy-sector strategy, noting that energy was a critical element for addressing all other peacebuilding requirements.

40. On 12 December, the Peacebuilding Commission and the Government of Sierra Leone adopted a Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework (PBC/2/SLE/1). Zainab Bangura, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, represented the Government of Sierra Leone at the adoption meeting and highlighted that the Government of Sierra Leone was fully committed to the implementation of the Peacebuilding Framework and that the fulfilment of some of the commitments would need to take into account the outcome of the ongoing constitutional review. All stakeholders stressed that the Framework should guide the work of the Commission and the Government by highlighting key peacebuilding challenges in existing national strategies and commitments, and ensuring their timely and effective implementation. They also stressed that the Framework should ensure Sierra Leone's cooperation with the Commission on the basis of national ownership, mutual accountability and sustained engagement. The Commission made a commitment to use the Framework to enhance dialogue and strengthen partnerships between Sierra Leone and its international partners and to mobilize additional resources for peace consolidation efforts. On 14 December 2007 and upon the request of the Security Council, the Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration provided a briefing to the Security Council on progress made in that respect.

41. With the successful adoption of the Framework, the engagement of the Commission focused on three primary objectives: generating support for the implementation of the commitments contained in the Framework, broadening of the donor base in Sierra Leone and triggering new activities or expanding existing activities in peacebuilding priority areas.

42. On 17 January 2008, the Sierra Leone configuration agreed on a workplan for resource mobilization, outreach and advocacy. Subsequently, the Chair visited Washington, D.C., London, Brussels, Berlin and The Hague, and convened meetings with representatives of the private sector, foundations and international financial institutions to raise awareness about the Framework and garner political and financial support for its implementation. The Framework was also transmitted to all relevant stakeholders through a joint letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone and the Minister for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands.

43. In addition to advocacy and resource mobilization, in the first half of 2008 the country-specific configuration also focused on the issues of support to local council elections and the implementation of the energy-sector emergency plan. The meetings of the Sierra Leone configuration held on 14 February and 18 March 2008 on the subject of local elections and the energy sector resulted in a strong appeal to contribute to the UNDP Basket Fund for Local Council Elections to meet the funding gap of almost US$ 13 million.

44. From 21 to 25 April 2008, the Chair undertook a mission to discuss the status of implementation of the Framework and to prepare for a high-level stakeholders

consultation and the biannual review of the Framework, held on 19 May and 19 June 2008, respectively. The Chair's visit highlighted developments, progress and challenges in the implementation of the Framework, particularly in the areas of justice and security sector reform, anti-corruption, energy-sector development and local council elections. On 7 May 2008 and upon the request of the Security Council, the Chair briefed the Security Council on the recent developments in Sierra Leone and provided recommendations on the continued integrated presence of the United Nations in the country.

45. On 19 May 2008, a high-level stakeholders consultation brought together members of the Government of Sierra Leone, senior representatives of member States, the United Nations, the private sector and the civil society. The primary objectives of the consultation were to garner support for the implementation of the Framework, initiate new partnerships, generate support for existing peacebuilding initiatives and broaden the donor base for Sierra Leone. The meeting also explored challenges to forging partnerships and innovative ideas for mobilization of resources, such as the utilization of pooled funding and sector-wide strategies. Several stakeholders expressed commitments to continue or increase their support to Sierra Leone in line with the Framework.

46. The Chair led a visit to Sierra Leone from 1 to 6 June to obtain first-hand information on the progress in the implementation of the Framework and to prepare for the upcoming biannual review.

47. On 19 June 2008, the Sierra Leone configuration held the first biannual review of the implementation of the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework for Sierra Leone, and adopted the conclusions and recommendations of the biannual review of the implementation of the Sierra Leone Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework (PBC/2/SLE/8).

D. Guinea-Bissau configuration

48. On the basis of a request by the Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau on 11 July 2007, the Security Council, on 11 December 2007, referred the country to the Commission and requested its advice on: (a) governmental capacity to institute effective oversight and management of national finances, and comprehensive public sector reform, including effective anti-corruption policies and programmes; (b) action by the Government and the international community to develop effective, accountable and sustainable security systems and to strengthen the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law, taking account in particular of the dangers posed by drug trafficking and organized crime; and (c) ongoing development of democratic accountability and preparations for elections in 2008. The Security Council further requested initial advice from the Commission within 90 days.

49. From 23 to 25 January 2008, the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration undertook an exploratory mission to Bissau to gather first-hand impressions on the situation and to establish contacts on the ground with the Government and other stakeholders.

50. On 20 February 2008, a high-level delegation, headed by Martinho Dafa Cabi, Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau, addressed the Commission, summarizing his Government's peacebuilding priorities and challenges as (a) the reform of public

administration; (b) the consolidation of the rule of law and security-sector reforms, including support for the electoral system, support for the judicial system; demobilization, reintegration and reinsertion of military and police, small arms and light weapons collection and mine action; (c) the promotion of professional technical training and youth employment; and (d) support for vulnerable groups, including access to social services, development of human capital in the education sector, and strengthening of human capital and improvements in the functioning of health centres. The revitalization of the economy and the rehabilitation of infrastructure, particularly in the energy sector, were also emphasized. The Chairperson of the Economic and Social Council Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African Countries Emerging from Conflict provided a briefing on the experience and work of the Advisory Group during the meeting. The Guinea-Bissau configuration unanimously decided, at that meeting, to declare the country eligible for support from the Peacebuilding Fund. On 27 February 2008, the Minister of Defense of Guinea-Bissau participated via video-link in a meeting of the Guinea-Bissau configuration, during which he articulated the country's priorities in the area of security-sector reform, notably the need to provide assistance to improve the living conditions of soldiers, including by refurbishing military barracks.

51. On 20 March 2008, the Chair met with senior representatives of the World Bank in Washington, D.C., to explore ways of strengthening the coordination of efforts between the World Bank and the Commission. The Chair reported that the World Bank would take the work of the Commission into consideration in its next programme planning for the country.

52. At the end of March 2008, the Security Council was presented with the latest report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau and received, upon the request of the Security Council, an oral update from the Chair on the progress of the Commission's work on Guinea-Bissau on 26 March 2008. Separately, the Chair wrote to the President of the Security Council, conveying to him the preliminary findings of the Commission (A/62/768-S/2008/208), on the basis of her exploratory mission to Bissau, the documents prepared by the Peacebuilding Support Office and the initial discussions of the Guinea-Bissau configuration. A document entitled "Mapping of resources and gaps for peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau" and an analytical background note on the situation in Guinea-Bissau (PBC/2/GNB/5) were presented to the country-specific configuration on 13 February and 14 March 2008, respectively, with the objective of contributing to the coordination of efforts by donors and other stakeholders. The latter document was updated in April 2008 and will serve as a "living document" to reflect additional cooperation initiatives in support of Guinea-Bissau.

53. A draft outline of the strategic framework for peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau was discussed by the Guinea-Bissau configuration and subsequently submitted to the Government of Guinea-Bissau for comments. The Government is currently engaged in drafting the strategic framework, in consultation with all relevant actors in Guinea-Bissau and in New York. The draft strategic framework is expected to be finalized and endorsed by the Guinea-Bissau configuration by July 2008.

54. From 6 to 11 April 2008, the Commission undertook a mission to Guinea-Bissau to continue the dialogue with the Government and other national and international stakeholders on the strategic framework for the country. The delegation

met with Government representatives at all levels, including political parties; the army; civil society, including the private sector; the diplomatic community; and the United Nations country team. The delegation also visited a number of sites in and outside Bissau, which illustrated some of the key peacebuilding challenges faced by the country. In addition, the delegation attended the swearing-in ceremony of the National Steering Committee set up for the disbursement of the Peacebuilding Fund, co-chaired by the Government of Guinea-Bissau and the United Nations and with representation from Government ministries, United Nations funds and programmes, bilateral and multilateral partners and civil society.

55. Following the approval of the interim priority plan, the Secretary-General allocated a Peacebuilding Fund funding envelope of US$ 6 million to Guinea-Bissau. That initial disbursement, in support of projects in the fields of judicial police, army barracks, youth employment and elections, was the first tranche of the Peacebuilding Fund allocation to Guinea-Bissau. A second tranche will be allocated after the adoption of the strategic framework. That early allocation of funds was made in line with the Guinea-Bissau configuration's decision to engage in a two-track approach, which combines a strategic planning effort with a focus on short-term deliverables.

E. Working Group on Lessons Learned

56. The Working Group on Lessons Learned was established to analyse best practices and lessons on critical peacebuilding issues. The objective of the Working Group remains to enrich the deliberations of the Commission with respect to the countries on its agenda. Bringing expert practitioners and policy analysts to engage with the Commission, the Working Group also continues to benefit from the expertise of member States that have relevant post-conflict experience. In organizing its meetings, the Working Group drew on the expertise of a range of international and national actors, including from throughout the United Nations system, civil society organizations and research institutions.

57. During the second session of the Commission, the Working Group held eight informal meetings, focusing on the lessons and good practices associated with: (a) the design and monitoring of peacebuilding strategic frameworks in fragile states; (b) the constraints placed on fiscal capacities in post-conflict countries; (c) the challenges to local governance and decentralization in post-war contexts; (d) the opportunities for enhancing women's participation in peacebuilding; (e) the promotion of justice in times of transition; (f) the risks from failing to address internal displacement effectively in post-war settings; and (g) the interplay between the environment, natural resources, conflict and peacebuilding.

58. The Working Group targeted its analytical findings and policy recommendations to the work of the country-specific configurations. Briefing papers and Chair's summaries from the Working Group's sessions were widely disseminated in the United Nations peacebuilding community, including through the Commission's website, the Peacebuilding Community of Practice and the Peacebuilding Initiative of the Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research.

59. A meeting of the Working Group convened on 12 June 2008 was specifically devoted to a general review of the major principles and best practices that had been

collected to date within the broader peacebuilding perspective. On 19 June 2008, the Chair of the Working Group reported to the Organizational Committee, including on the outcome of the 12 June meeting.

III. Peacebuilding Fund

60. As of March 2008, the Peacebuilding Fund has recorded pledges of US$ 267 million, thus exceeding the original target of US$ 250 million. The strong overall support for the Fund, as well as its diverse donor base, comprising 45 donors, including 19 new donors, who have made contributions since June 2007, attest to a strong and continued commitment to peacebuilding.

61. As reported by the Peacebuilding Support Office, Peacebuilding Fund projects are under implementation in Burundi and Sierra Leone, using funds provided in 2006 under the country envelopes of US$ 35 million. As at May 2008, a total of US$ 27.9 million had been disbursed to 15 approved projects in Burundi in the following priority sectors: security sector, 46 per cent; democracy and good governance, 43.6 per cent; human rights, 7.9 per cent; and property and land issues, 2.5 per cent. In Sierra Leone, a total of US$ 15.7 million had been disbursed to 7 approved projects in the following priority sectors: justice and security, 64.5 per cent; youth employment and empowerment, 25.5 per cent; and democracy and good governance, 10 per cent.

62. In addition to Burundi and Sierra Leone, which were declared eligible for support from the Fund during the first session of the Commission, Guinea-Bissau received an initial allocation of US$ 6 million to tackle immediate peacebuilding priorities, in line with its interim priority plan. That approach will allow for subsequent funding in support of a comprehensive priority plan, which is to be aligned with the strategic framework for peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau.

63. In an effort to improve upon the transparency of the Fund's operations and to enhance the understanding of the relationships between the Commission and the Fund, the Commission established the practice of quarterly briefings by the Peacebuilding Support Office in its informal meeting, in addition to regular briefings convened by the Peacebuilding Support Office to Peacebuilding Fund donors regarding the financial situation and performance of the Fund. Members of the Commission have been discussing the operations of the Fund on several occasions and have explored different approaches to improve upon the synergies between the Commission and the Fund. The two-tier approach devised for Guinea-Bissau is considered to be an important innovation in that regard and will ensure that the priority plan under the Fund will be better aligned with the strategic framework under discussion in the Commission. The Secretary-General will present a comprehensive report on the Fund's second year of operations to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

IV. Observations and the way forward

64. While it is recognized that progress has been achieved in its existing configurations, as presented in section II above, the evolving challenges before the Commission require additional and targeted efforts by its members, partners and

relevant actors within and outside the United Nations system. The Commission will chart the way forward in its engagement with the countries on its agenda and in further refining its role and added value.

A. Providing integrated strategies for peacebuilding

65. The Commission continued to provide sustained attention to the countries under its consideration and remained engaged in supporting national efforts in the areas of dialogue, reconciliation, capacity-building, institutional reforms, economic recovery and human rights. The interaction with the Commission further strengthened the notion of national ownership, mutual accountability and partnership of the international community, while encouraging dialogue among national stakeholders and international partners. The Commission intends to further enhance its standing by building on such positive accomplishments and by consolidating its efforts in the countries under its consideration. In so doing, the Commission will seek to minimize the risk of a lapse or a relapse into conflict in the countries under its consideration.

66. The concept of an Integrated Peacebuilding Strategy has proven to be a flexible and practical instrument for facilitating political dialogue, analysing the sources of conflict, enhancing coordination among key national and international actors, marshalling resources and monitoring progress. In that connection and in an effort to further enhance its effectiveness and efficiency, the Commission will, whenever necessary, consider further refining the Integrated Peacebuilding Strategy concept, as well as other options for future engagement. In that regard, the Integrated Peacebuilding Strategy could be tailored to a wide range of specific country situations and some common characteristics should ideally include the following elements: (a) a consultative process based on the principle of national ownership; (b) an integrated approach to ensure that political, security and development dimensions reinforce rather than undermine each other; (c) succinct identification and analysis of key peacebuilding priorities and commitments on the part of all stakeholders; (d) a nationally led monitoring and review mechanism on the basis of concrete, measurable and time-bound indicators to assess progress as well as setbacks towards agreed commitments; (e) coherence with existing national strategic frameworks, such as the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers; and (f) ways to support national capacity for peacebuilding and enhance aid effectiveness.

67. Throughout the drafting and implementation process of the Integrated Peacebuilding Strategy, the importance of the mapping exercise has been recognized by the Commission, particularly as a critical means to identify gaps in efforts to marshal and mobilize resources. The Commission, with the assistance of the Peacebuilding Support Office, will continue to conduct research on ongoing support for peacebuilding activities in the countries under its consideration. In that context, the Commission notes the need for the Secretariat to support the mapping exercise on peacebuilding activities in the countries under consideration, and also invites all stakeholders, especially the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, regional and subregional organizations, international financial institutions and other bilateral partners, particularly those who are actively engaged in the countries under consideration, to promptly provide relevant information to the Peacebuilding Support Office in that regard.

B. Marshalling resources and enhancing coordination

68. The Commission acknowledged the critical importance of official development assistance, trade and investment in post-conflict countries. The Commission is particularly encouraged that several bilateral partners represented on the Commission have increased their commitments towards countries under consideration or initiated a new engagement. The Commission will continue to develop methods for mobilizing international and domestic resources and related instruments, such as the early mapping exercise and systematic monitoring and tracking mechanisms.

69. The Commission has noted that resources need to be utilized in a complementary manner, including domestic and external, public and private, financial and non-financial resources, and need to be obtained from traditional as well as emerging donors. In early 2008, the Organizational Committee considered the role of the private sector in peacebuilding and underscored its potential role in providing both financial and non-financial support, which has been further examined by the task force on the private sector. Those issues were also discussed in the context of meetings of the country-specific configurations. The Commission will also strengthen its involvement in the mobilization of non-financial resources, such as technical assistance and capacity-building for Governments and other stakeholders.

70. The Commission will strengthen its ongoing cooperation with the World Bank, IMF, the regional development banks and regional or subregional organizations, at both the leadership and the working levels, in addressing the specific needs of countries under its consideration by building on existing expertise within the United Nations and other relevant organizations.

71. The Commission has supported the use of the Peacebuilding Fund as a catalytic tool to ensure the immediate release of resources to launch peacebuilding activities and the availability of appropriate financing for recovery in countries under consideration. In that regard, the Commission will continue to make further efforts to create closer strategic ties between its engagements and the use of the Fund. The Commission recognizes the importance of strengthening the capacity of the countries under consideration and the United Nations presence on the ground for the effective utilization of the Fund. At the same time, it is recognized that the Peacebuilding Fund can only address a fraction of existing requirements; that additional resources are needed to effectively support national peacebuilding efforts; and that innovative approaches will be required to link the initial catalytic financial outlay provided through the Peacebuilding Fund with more sustained and significantly larger funding sources. The Commission will explore appropriate ways to engage in the General Assembly's review of the terms of reference of the Fund.

72. Policy coherence and coordination remain key challenges at the country level, between international and domestic actors, among departments, ministries and diplomatic representations of Member States, and within the United Nations system. With its diverse composition and unique convening capacity, the Commission will promote and facilitate coordination at all levels.

C. Developing best practices

73. The Working Group on Lessons Learned has gained valuable expertise in managing peacebuilding knowledge through a variety of thematic discussions. The Commission will further strengthen efforts to develop best practices by forging better synergies and coherence among its different configurations as well as other external actors.

74. Looking ahead, there is a need to reflect on the diversity of views as to the precise characteristics and principles of, and requirements for, effective peacebuilding; the recognition of the uniqueness of some peacebuilding experiences in particular contexts; and the acknowledgement that peacebuilding requires skilful analysis and an appreciation of local history and norms.

D. Deepening strategy and policy discussions on peacebuilding

75. The Commission's first informal ambassadorial-level retreat held on 18 and 19 January 2008 offered an invaluable opportunity for an in-depth discussion on the added value of the Commission in addressing peacebuilding challenges and gaps in the overall peace continuum by fulfilling its key mandate and for developing a common understanding on the way forward at the conceptual, methodological and strategic levels. The Commission will consider organizing an annual informal retreat to further elaborate on strategic issues at future sessions.

76. The Organizational Committee, with its unique composition and standing representation on all country-specific configurations, is considered to be a custodian of the Commission's implementation of its mandate. The Commission intends to continue the strategy and policy discussion of peacebuilding in order to further strengthen its capacity to implement its mandates and its impact on the ground, as well as to provide a forum to discuss general peacebuilding issues.

E. Enhancing collaboration and outreach

77. Regular interaction with the principal organs of the United Nations has been an essential element for raising awareness of the work of the Commission, ensuring support from those organs and coordinating with their respective work programmes. The Chairperson of the Commission will continue to hold regular meetings with the Presidents of the principal organs and the Secretary-General in order to enable the Commission to explore substantive collaboration. In that regard, the Chairperson of the Commission will keep members of the Organizational Committee well informed. The General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Secretary-General may wish to consider taking appropriate actions, within their own competence and responsibilities, to further advocate for the work of the Commission, particularly the recommendations contained in the Integrated Peacebuilding Strategies.

78. The Chairs of the Commission's country-specific configurations have been actively engaged in outreach efforts. In that context, the Commission will continue to promote the implementation of Integrated Peacebuilding Strategies and seek the continued support of all relevant actors to that effect.

79. Interactive collaboration remains essential for advancing the work of the Commission. In order to enhance its convening role, the Commission will encourage active inputs from Member States, as well as relevant international and regional organizations and civil society, and seek to more widely disseminate the outcome of its work and the lessons learned in that respect, including through its website, the Peacebuilding Community of Practice and the Peacebuilding Initiative project of the Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research. Those three initiatives represent important communication means to spread the work of the Commission and will strengthen the awareness of current and potential future stakeholders concerning the situation in the countries placed on the Commission's agenda.

80. The awareness of the work of the Commission has significantly improved during the reporting period both in the countries under consideration and also in capitals of Member States, the headquarters of international and regional organizations and among civil society and academia. The initiatives of all stakeholders to organize peacebuilding-related events, such as seminars, symposiums and panel discussions, have further contributed to that achievement. Events organized by the Governments of Member States are particularly important in that regard because they provide opportunities to advocate for peacebuilding and the work of the Commission and foster a national dialogue on how the country concerned could best contribute to the peacebuilding effort. In that context, the Commission encourages all stakeholders to continue supporting its advocacy.

F. Organizational matter

81. The allocation of the seats among the regional groups for the election of the members of the Organizational Committee in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council had not been agreed upon before the conclusion of the second session of the Commission, which led to the decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on 20 June 2008. The Commission expresses its hope that the Member States will soon reach a consensus on the allocation of the seats among the regional groups for the election of the members of the Organizational Committee.

V. Conclusions

82. During its second session, the Commission has consolidated its achievements in Burundi and Sierra Leone and instituted a joint monitoring and tracking mechanism, which will allow it to regularly review progress achieved in the two countries. The Commission's new engagement with Guinea-Bissau has enabled it to apply some of the lessons learned in the first two countries and to build some innovations into the Guinea-Bissau process, such as the dispatching of a field mission by the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration, immediately following the referral of the country and the adoption of a two-track approach on the use of the Peacebuilding Fund. Such initiatives have been observed in all configurations and they demonstrate the Commission's ability to provide a flexible and appropriate response as the situation may warrant.

83. As the work of the Commission continues to evolve, it needs to retain this capacity to innovate and to adapt its working methods, as may be necessary,

including the use of advanced information technologies. This is particularly relevant in the light of the fact that the Commission in the future will likely consider additional countries. In further developing the tools for its engagement with countries, gathering best practices and lessons learned on peacebuilding and deepening the strategy and policy discussion on peacebuilding, the Commission will ensure its continued contribution to the overall peacebuilding efforts in the countries under its consideration and the international community at large.

Annex I

Membership of the Organizational Committee and its Burundi, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone configurations

Organizational Committee

23 June 2007-22 June 2008

Angola

Bangladesh

Belgium

Brazil (*Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration*)

Burundi

Chile

China

Czech Republic

Egypt

El Salvador (*Vice-Chairperson*)

Fiji

France

Georgia

Germany

Ghana (*Vice-Chairperson*)

Guinea-Bissau

India

Indonesia

Italy

Jamaica

Japan (*Chairperson*)

Luxembourg

Netherlands (*Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration*)

Nigeria

Norway (*Chair of the Burundi configuration*)

Pakistan

Russian Federation

South Africa

Sri Lanka

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

United States of America

Additional members of the Burundi configuration (in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005))

Canada

Croatia

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Denmark

Kenya

Nepal

Rwanda

Uganda

United Republic of Tanzania

African Development Bank

African Union

East African Economic Community

Economic Commission for Africa

Economic Community of Central African States

Executive Representative of the Secretary-General

Inter-Parliamentary Union

Organisation internationale de la francophonie

Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region

Additional members of the Guinea-Bissau configuration (in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005))

Benin

Burkina Faso

Cape Verde

Gambia

Guinea

Mexico

Mozambique

Niger

Portugal

Sao Tome and Principe

Senegal

Spain

Timor-Leste

African Development Bank

African Union

Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Economic Community of West African States

Organisation internationale de la francophonie

Representative of the Secretary-General

Union économique et monétaire ouest africaine

United Nations Development Programme

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Additional members of the Sierra Leone configuration (in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005))

Burkina Faso

Guinea

Ireland

Liberia

Sierra Leone

Sweden

African Development Bank

African Union

Central Bank of West African States

Commonwealth

Economic Commission for Africa

Economic Community of West African States

Executive Representative of the Secretary-General

Mano River Union

Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa

Participants in all meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission (in accordance with paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005))

International Monetary Fund

World Bank

European Community

Organization of the Islamic Conference

Annex II

Chronology of the work of the Organizational Committee

Formal meetings*

2007

27 June

Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons; adoption of the provisional calendar of meetings for the period July to December 2007

16 July

Adoption of the report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its first session (A/62/137-S/2007/458)

12 September

Election of the Chairperson

18 October

The question of financing field missions of the Peacebuilding Commission

19 December

Letter dated 11 December 2007 from the President of the Security Council to the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission (on the referral of Guinea-Bissau) (A/62/736-S/2007/744)

2008

12 June

Letter dated 30 May 2008 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission (on the referral of the Central African Republic) (A/62/864-S/2008/383)

19 and 23 June

Adoption of the annual report of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC/2/OC/L.2), as revised

* The agenda and summary record of formal meetings are available on the website of the Commission (www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding).

Informal meetings

2007

10 September

Election of the Chairperson

16 October

The General Assembly joint debate on 10 October and the Security Council debate on 17 October; points to be considered for adding a new country to the Peacebuilding Commission agenda; modality and topics of possible thematic discussion/discussions; strengthening the relationship with the international financial institutions; the question of financing field missions of the Peacebuilding Commission; the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund

19 November

Points to be considered for adding new countries to the Peacebuilding Commission agenda, and strengthening the relationship with the referral bodies; strategy and policy discussion in the Peacebuilding Commission

17 December

Peacebuilding Commission retreat; informal Peacebuilding Fund briefing; briefing on the theme "Measuring peace consolidation and supporting transition", presented by Richard Caplan

19 December

Consultations on the referral of Guinea-Bissau

2008

16 January

Peacebuilding Commission retreat; Guinea-Bissau configuration

19 February

Strategy and policy discussion on the theme "The role of the private sector in peacebuilding: contribution by the Peacebuilding Commission"

24 March

Harmonization of Peacebuilding Commission and Peacebuilding Fund activities

17 April

Briefing by Saherwork Zawdy, Chairperson of the African Union Peace and Security Council

13 May

Strategy and policy discussion on the theme "Forging strategic synergies for peacebuilding: the role of the Peacebuilding Commission"; introduction of the draft report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its first session

2 June

Informal adoption of the second Peacebuilding Commission annual report

12 June

Consultations on the referral of the Central African Republic

19 June

High-level briefing by the Chairperson of the Forum of African Former Heads of State and Government on "Peacebuilding towards the construction of capable States in Africa"; report from the task force on the private sector; report from the Working Group on Lessons Learned; consideration of the election of the Chairperson and other officials

Annex III

Chronology of the work of the Burundi configuration

Formal meetings*

2007

19 September

Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations of the Peacebuilding Commission following the report of the Chair of Burundi configuration (PBC/2/BDI/2)

5 December

Adoption of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism for the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi (PBC/2/BDI/4)

2008

20 March

Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations of the Peacebuilding Commission on the situation in Burundi (PBC/2/BDI/7)

23 June

Biannual review of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi

Informal meetings

2007

19 July

Discussion on the calendar of work and have initial exchange

2 August

Informal discussion of the situation in Burundi

13 August

Briefing from Burundi on the efforts of the African Union, European Union, United Nations and regional actors in response to the current political situation in the country

* The agenda and summary record of formal meetings are available on the website of the Commission (www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding).

22 August

Discussion of the development of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism for the Burundi Strategic Framework

14 September

Conclusions and recommendations of the Peacebuilding Commission following the report of the Chair of the Burundi configuration

3 October

Update on the development of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism in Burundi and on the United Nations technical assistance mission to the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi

18 October

Update on the development of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism in Burundi

6 November

Update on the development of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism in Burundi

15 November

Update on the development of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism in Burundi

21 November

Update on the development of the Monitoring and Tracking Mechanism in Burundi

2008

6 February

Update on current peacebuilding issues as identified in the Strategic Framework for Burundi

29 February

Briefing on the outcome of the meeting of Special Representatives and Special Envoys on Burundi, held in Cape Town on 22 and 23 February 2008

9 April

Discussion on the arrangements for the Peacebuilding Commission's field visit to Burundi

23 April

Discussion on the recent developments in Burundi

30 April

Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its field visit to Burundi

8 May

Discussion of the arrangements for the Peacebuilding Commission's field visit to Burundi

27 May

Discussion of sustainable solutions to land issues in Burundi

16 June

Informal briefing by non-governmental organizations

Annex IV

Chronology of the work of the Sierra Leone configuration

Formal meetings*

2007

12 December

Adoption of the Sierra Leone Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework (PBC/2/SLE/1)

2008

19 May

High-level stakeholders consultation on the implementation of the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework (see PBC/2/SLE/5)

19 June

Biannual review of the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework

Informal meetings

2007

25 July

Preparations for the national elections

17 August

Debriefing on the presidential elections and preparations for the run-off elections

20 September

Final meeting on the elections

4 October

Preparations for the Chair's visit to Sierra Leone

19 October

Report back from the Chair's visit to Sierra Leone

30 October

Meeting on the draft Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework

* The agenda and summary record of formal meetings are available on the website of the Commission (www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding).

7 November

Meeting on the draft Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework

13 November

Thematic meeting on the energy sector development

20 November

Meeting on the draft Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework

27 November

Meeting on the draft Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework

2008

14 February

Meeting on the implementation of the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework focusing on local council elections and the energy sector development

18 March

Debriefing on the Chair's advocacy and resource mobilization visits to Europe and Washington, D.C.

29 April

Debriefing on the Chair's visit to Sierra Leone

30 May

Preparations for the Peacebuilding Commission's field visit to Sierra Leone

17 June

Informal briefing by non-governmental organizations

Annex V

Chronology of the work of the Guinea-Bissau configuration

Formal meetings*

2008

21 January

First meeting of the Guinea-Bissau configuration and discussion of the indicative plan of work

20 February

Presentation by the Government of Guinea-Bissau of its priorities for peacebuilding

Informal meetings

2008

5 February

Briefing on the Chair's visit to Guinea-Bissau

13 February

Peacebuilding Support Office presentation on mapping of resources in Guinea-Bissau

27 February

Preliminary discussion on the draft Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau

14 March

Discussion on the background paper on the situation in Guinea-Bissau

2 April

Discussion on the programme of work; Peacebuilding Support Office briefing on the Peacebuilding Framework for Guinea-Bissau

23 April

Exchange of views with the Secretary-General of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

* The agenda and summary record of formal meetings are available on the website of the Commission (www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding).

30 April

Discussion of the report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its field visit to Guinea-Bissau

7 May

Thematic discussion of the challenges linked to the upcoming legislative elections in Guinea-Bissau

14 May

Thematic discussion of the challenges linked to the public administration reform and measures to reactivate the economy

28 May

Thematic discussion of the challenges linked to combating drug trafficking and strengthening of the justice sector

11 June

Social issues, including youth employment and vocational training; update on ongoing preparations for the upcoming legislative elections

18 June

Security sector reform and rule of law

Annex VI

Chronology of the work of the Working Group on Lessons Learned

2007

19 September

Strategic frameworks

8 November

Fiscal capacities in post-conflict countries

13 December

Local governance and decentralization in post-war contexts

2008

29 January

Gender and peacebuilding: enhancing women's participation

26 February

Justice in times of transition

13 March

Comparative lessons learned from addressing internal displacement in peacebuilding

8 May

Environment, conflict and peacebuilding

12 June

Review of thematic discussions held by the Working Group